

A-level Fine Art – AQA
A-level Photography - AQA

It is essential that you complete the tasks within this transition document and present them to your class teacher in your first lesson at the start of the new academic year. These tasks will support your understanding of key concepts that you will be tested on in the induction assessments, taken within the first 3 weeks, that ultimately decide if you are suitable to continue on this course.

Units/Topics	Supporting Links	Reading
<p>Title – 'The Formal elements: Create what you love'</p> <p>As you begin your A Level Art journey, this project will encourage you to explore the things that genuinely interest and inspire you while developing a deeper understanding of the formal elements of art. The formal elements are the building blocks of visual language. Throughout this project, you will investigate how artists use these elements to communicate ideas, emotions, and personal experiences. You will then apply them to a subject matter of your own choosing—something you love, are passionate about, or are curious to explore. This project is about developing independence, creativity, and personal connections to your work while building the analytical and practical skills required for A Level study.</p> <p>The Formal Elements •Line, shape, form, colour, tone, texture, pattern, space, composition</p> <p>Create What You Love Choose a theme that has genuine meaning to you. See some ideas below: •Music, nature, fashion, sport, animals, architecture, travel, food, film and media, family and relationships, hobbies and collections, cultural identity, social issues you care about. The strongest projects often come from subjects you are excited to investigate.</p> <p>Year 12 Sept – Mar = Skills unit on 'The Formal Elements: Create what you love.'</p> <p>Year 12 Mar – year 13 Jan = Personal Investigation (self chosen project).</p> <p>Year 13 Feb – May = externally set assignment</p>	<p>Unit Specification AQA A-Level Fine Art: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/a-level/art-and-design-7201/specification/subject-content/fine-art#Fine_art</p> <p>A-level Photography: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/a-level/art-and-design-7201/specification/subject-content/photography#Photography</p>	<p>https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern</p> <p>https://www.rca.ac.uk/</p> <p>https://www.vam.ac.uk/?</p> <p>https://www.vam.ac.uk/?srsId=AfmBOOrm4TwV3ymeNydmmqK7uSp-aeCO1pe63bDSRDIEkshD49PuTfr8</p>



Know your why – Why study Fine Art or Photography A-level?

<file:///raynespark.merton.sch.uk/Staffdata/mhone/My%20Documents/MHE/Year%2011%20to%2012%20Transition%20work/Creative%20careers.pdf>

Remember: A Level Art rewards curiosity, independence and experimentation. The most successful students are not always the best drawers—they are the students who explore, question and create relentlessly.

<p>Task 1: The “100 Photos” Hunt Take 100 photographs over the summer based on things you love.</p> <p>You might photograph:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •People •Pets •Nature •Food •Sport •Music •Fashion •Architecture •Travel •Collections •Everyday objects <p>No selfies – good quality photos only.</p>	<p>Task 2: Create a mindmap that is full of ideas, drawings, and photos. No less than 30 ideas.</p> <p>Identify which formal elements could be explored that relate to what you Love.</p> <p>e.g A love of Fashion could relate to formal elements: texture, form, shape, scale, proportion.</p>	<p>Task 3: Organise your photos into categories that link to the formal elements (colour, texture, pattern, line, shape, etc.)</p> <p>Present all photos into your book.</p> <p>Annotate what you love about the photo and which formal elements it could relates to.</p>	<p>Task 4: Drawing Challenge: 5 Images, 5 Media</p> <p>Choose 5 images linked to something you love. These can be your own photographs or images you have collected.</p> <p>Create 5 observational studies, using a different media for each drawing.</p> <p><u>You could experiment with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pencil, coloured pencil, fine liner, watercolour, acrylic paint, oil pastel, charcoal, ink, collage, textiles and fabric, embroidery or stitch, mixed media, printed materials, found objects <p><u>For each study:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Include the original image. 2.Create a careful observational drawing inspired by the image. 3.Clearly label the media used. 4.Add a short reflection (2–3 sentences) explaining what worked well and how you used the formal elements (line, shape, tone, colour, texture, pattern, form or composition). <p>Challenge yourself to experiment. A Level Art is about exploring materials, taking creative risks and discovering new ways of working. Think beyond drawing pencils and consider how fabric, thread, paint, collage and other materials can help communicate your ideas.</p>
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Further Research



1. Ways of Seeing by John Berger

2. Think Like an Artist: . . . and Lead a More Creative, Productive Life by Will Gompertz

3. What Are You Looking At?: 150 Years of Modern Art in the Blink of an Eye by Will Gompertz

4. This Is Modern Art by Matthew Collings • The Art Book by Phaidon

5. Art: the definitive visual guide by Andrew Graham Dixon

Further Listening



Follow the link to a selection of podcasts on the Royal Academy website:

<https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/article/9-art-podcasts-to-help-you-pass-the-time-in-lockdown>

Follow the link to a selection of podcasts on the Tate Modern website:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/podcasts>

Further Watching



1. BBC Documentary Who's Afraid of Conceptual Art BBC Documentary 2016.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwp-Vx_9Fbw

2. BBC iplayer 'Picasso: The Beauty and the Beast' – 3 part documentary on Picasso's life and work.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p0fjh4zl/picasso-the-beauty-and-the-beast>

3. Becoming Frida – 3 part documentary about Frida Kahlo and her life and work.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m001jw97/becoming-frida-kahlo>

4. Simon Schama's Power of Art
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m001rrqt/simon-schamas-power-of-art>

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